MEMORANDUM

22 January 1963
(actually written and misfiled
7 November 1962)

To: John C. Lilly

From: Theodor H. Nelson

I would like to present some arguments in favor of the names I have ~~xgg~~ suggested for Baby and Mother, viz., "Squeedunk" and "Rotunda."

Both names are slightly condescending, as appears to be traditional for the purpose. This may serve to reinforce the sense of superiority of human over cetacean personnel.

However, each alludes to traits of the ~~individuals~~ individual. "Squeedunk" is what he does, that is, squeal and sink defiantly below the surface. By "Rotunda" it is suggested (but noncommittally) that she is stuck in that position, which we demonstrate good humor by admitting.

Furthermore, the names have the property, found in the best literary naming, of back-up connotation: "Squeedunk" is of course ~~ax~~ companion name to "Podunk" and "Siwash," connoting provinciality or weeness of a sort. "Rotunda," gratuitously feminine in ending, suggests, ~~b~~ perhaps, besides roundness, symmetry and grace, redundancy, echo, voluminousness and filibuster, ~~alls~~ of which we recognize informally as delphinid traits. It has three rhythmic syllables, which might help non-human pronunciation.

It should be noted that a measure of literary whimsy is usually not lost on Funds ~~administaators~~. While such names as Grumpy, Peewee, Pickle-Nose, etc., have a certain brute whimsical intent, the ~~xpx~~ strain expended in probing single-entendre is found depressing by many.

FILERITE FOLDER No 350-3 GOLDSMITH BROS., STATIONERS, 77 NASSAU ST., N.Y.